



Building the AgriGRADE Centre of Excellence!

Based in: Utrecht, the Netherlands

Your entrepreneurship helps us make a global impact in agriculture!

Coordinator AgriGRADE Centre of Excellence (CoE)

About the AgriGRADE Centre of Excellence

The AgriGRADE Centre of Excellence is to be built within the coming 3.5 years as a component of the AgriGRADE project that has recently been awarded by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign to a consortium consisting of SCOPEinsight (lead), Agriterra, Oikocredit, IDH, and Farmfit Funds. The purpose of the -to be built – AgriGRADE Centre of Excellence is to nurture and grow on a day-to-day basis the AgriGRADE network, promoting the mission and vision of AgriGRADE and its entire network internationally, nationally, and locally.

'AgriGRADE' entails the introduction of an innovative way of working to graduate cooperative landscapes (<https://agrigrade.org>) that builds on standardized and therefore interoperable data. The long-term mission of AgriGRADE is to transform rural economies into economically viable, resilient, and inclusive systems, contributing to enhanced food trade, food security, and local economic value. This is accomplished by graduating cooperatives to higher levels of professionalism, improving efficiency, strengthening the value chains they operate in, and facilitating access to finance at scale.

About Agriterra

Agriterra is one of the members of the consortium implementing the AgriGRADE project. In this capacity, Agriterra actively participates in the AgriGRADE project by assigning a dedicated staff member to the AgriGRADE team, specifically the advertised Coordinator for AgriGRADE's Center of Excellence.

Stichting Agriterra was founded 26 years ago by Dutch farmer cooperatives and has over the years evolved into an organisation partnering and supporting farmer cooperatives and organisations worldwide. Agriterra assists them with advice and training through peer-to-peer support in combination with locally based experts.

Agriterra is organised with a head office in Arnhem, the Netherlands, and has a network of country offices spread over Africa and Asia; employing approximately 200 staff

members. Agriterra is financed via donor-granted projects and programmes. For more information, visit our website www.agriterra.org.

About the job

As the Coordinator of the AgriGRADE Centre of Excellence, you will join a young, diverse, and highly motivated team, with you playing an instrumental role in the development of the AgriGRADE Centre of Excellence. In this position, you are a full member of the AgriGRADE team, led by SCOPEinsight. The AgriGRADE Coordinator reports functionally to the AgriGRADE director, and hierarchically to the Agriterra CEO.

Your work will mainly take place at the office of SCOPEinsight in Utrecht with the AgriGRADE team, occasionally you will work from the office of Agriterra in Arnhem or from home. You can be asked to travel for work to visit potential stakeholders, or to go to the field directly linking up to the implementation of the AgriGRADE approach in countries such as Tanzania and Kenya.

The position is time-bound until the 22nd of May 2027, as it is directly related to the funding available from the AgriGRADE project, with the possibility of extension.

Main tasks and responsibilities

- The oversight of the progress of the AgriGRADE pilots in Kenya and Tanzania, as executed under the leadership of respectively Agriterra and IDH. This includes ensuring alignment between the CoE and the AgriGRADE pilots, through monthly calls with the AgriGRADE leads of the pilots in Tanzania/Kenya, support in reviewing reports, and updates on the CoE and sharing/facilitating learnings between both pilot countries within all AgriGRADE partners.
- Drive and lead the Technical Assistance Working Groups.
- Responsible for the reporting of the AgriGRADE programme towards the donor, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which includes collecting input from the AgriGRADE partners (narrative and financial).
- Support the AgriGRADE Director in the marketing and communication of the AgriGRADE approach when necessary.
- Ensure alignment between the AgriGRADE Centre of Excellence, the AgriGRADE partners and the diverse relevant stakeholders, specifically Agriterra.
- Coordinate in the development and implementation of the AgriGRADE Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning framework and ensure the knowledge of AgriGRADE is captured for continuous improvement of the AgriGRADE concept. Standardize and monitor the main functions of AgriGRADE, enabling replication in other regions. Ensure the development, operationalization, standardization, interoperability, and continuous improvement of the AgriGRADE Concept.
- Utilise network and programme knowledge to support identifying and pursuing acquisition opportunities including follow-up programmes/projects related to the programme under implementation.
- In close cooperation with the AgriGRADE Centre of Excellence Director and Marketing Manager; build and maintain a network of relevant stakeholders to the programme. Proactively initiate and coordinate the promotion of the programme to relevant stakeholders through seminars.

What do you offer?

- Bachelor level of education in a relevant field such as International Development added with 3+ years of experience in a similar role, within the International Development Sector.
- Experience and knowledge of business development and acquisition work, programme budget setting and management.
- Proven leadership experience in programme management, with a focus on consortium or organizational development.
- Proficient in financial management skills with a sound understanding of reporting requirements.
- Preference for affinity with the agricultural cooperative sector.
- A relevant network in the international development sector.
- Fluent in English (speaking and writing), proficiency in additional languages such as French or Spanish is an advantage.
- Ability to work collaboratively with diverse teams and external partners.
- Competencies and skills: Result-driven and outcome-oriented, possessing great communication and networking skills, a problem-solver, initiative taker, critical thinker, attentive listener, collaboration builder, and inspirational leader.

What do we offer?

- A chance to make a global impact and disrupt an industry together with a social, ambitious, innovating and impact-driven team, including visiting the projects in Tanzania & Kenya;
- A salary that is based on experience, between 3.915 and 6.079 gross per month;
- An 8% holiday allowance;
- A solid pension scheme;
- End-of-year bonus;
- Travel allowance;
- Great workplace in the city centre of Utrecht (and Arnhem) & great colleagues!

Interested?

Send an email with your CV and cover letter to vacancy@agriterra.org to the attention of Marco Schouten, CEO, with the job title 'Coordinator AgriGRADE Center of Excellence' in the subject of the mail.

If you require further information, you can contact us by sending an e-mail.